

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A suction valve for a small hermetic compressor having a compression cylinder, which has an end closed by a valve plate having a discharge orifice and a suction orifice, said valve comprising a flexible vane which is shaped in a way to present: a fixation end portion to be affixed to the valve plate; a bending median portion provided with a median opening aligned with a discharge orifice; and a sealing end portion operatively associated with the suction orifice, the distance between an external edge of the flexible vane and an adjacent internal edge portion of the contour of the median opening diminishing, progressively, along a higher bending region of the flexible vane from a maximum value, close to the end fixation portion to a minimum value, close to the boundary of the higher bending region.